

VOL. 30 | MAY 2024

INDEPENDENT DISABILITY SERVICES

EXCELLENCE, COLLABORATIONS, AND COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

Welcome to the May edition of the IDS newsletter. This month, we shine a light on the remarkable achievements in our community, starting with the memorable IDS Services Excellence Awards night. We honour our exceptional team members, Grant Dell, Karen Tucker, and Jasmine Buenemann, who have shown extraordinary contributions to enhancing the lives of people with disabilities.

Our Client and Carer Engagement Group (CCEG) have been actively fostering community bonds and innovative ideas for a more client-centred organisation. Stay tuned for their unique perspectives and inspiring stories in our upcoming articles and blogs. We also share some thoughtful advice from our Hero of the Month, Imogen, on her journey and experiences as a dedicated Disability Support Worker at IDS.

In this issue, we bring you key updates on the NDIS review process, aiming to provide more transparent and simplified information to participants.

There's also an exciting new video guide for Disability Support Workers, a range of free cyber security resources provided by the Australian Government, and last but not least, we celebrate our May birthdays! Enjoy this month's collection of stories, updates, and recognitions in our ongoing journey towards a more inclusive community at IDS.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS FROM IDS SERVICES EXCELLENCE AWARDS NIGHT

The IDS Services Excellence Awards night was a glowing success, honouring the exceptional contributions of our team. Heartfelt congratulations to winners Grant Dell, Karen Tucker, and Jasmine Buenemann. The event spotlighted those who excel in enhancing the lives of people with disabilities.

The evening began with an acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the land, followed by an open board meeting led by Chair Geoff Schomburgk and CEO Sylvia Rosemond. This was followed by a Q&A session featuring Operations Manager Marcia Helmers and Geoff Schomburgk. Recognition awards were presented to outgoing board members Richard Lee.

As the event concluded, a sense of collective pride enveloped the room. The awards night epitomised the unwavering commitment of the disability community striving for excellence and inclusion. Thanks to all attendees, nominees, and those who nominated.



IDS QUARTERLY CLIENT AND CARER ENGAGEMENT GROUP MEETING

Our quarterly Client and Carer Engagement Group (CCEG) meeting in April strengthened community bonds and promoted active collaboration. Attendees actively shared thoughtful ideas for enhancing IDS as a client-centred organisation, reflecting the crucial voices of participants and carers.

Impressive suggestions ranged from innovative marketing initiatives, involving participants in DSW interviews, to improved identification methods at IDS events. A sincere thank you to all attendees for their insightful contributions, greatly enriching the IDS community.

COMING SOON: CCEG SHARING PERSPECTIVES AND INSPIRING STORIES

Keep an eye on the IDS website for upcoming articles and blogs from our Client and Carer Engagement Group (CCEG), who are eager to share their unique perspectives and experiences.

These contributions will shed light on life with a disability and the rewarding aspects of providing support. By sharing their stories, our participants and support workers aim to boost awareness, ignite understanding, and inspire others in and beyond IDS.

These heartfelt narratives not only showcase the diverse talents and voices within our community, but also foster empowerment and unity among all our stakeholders. Stay tuned for these inspiring stories.

NDIS REVIEW UPDATE - INSIGHTS INTO UPCOMING CHANGES

We'd like to share an update on the NDIS review process, focusing on measures being undertaken to simplify and provide more transparent information to participants. Please note that this isn't legal advice and is sourced online from The New NDIS Bill [Part 1] - Team DSC <https://teamdsc.com.au/resources/the-new-ndis-bill-part-1>

Significant changes are expected in the planning process. Instead of the current line-by-line planning, budgets will be created using needs assessments conducted by a yet-to-be-disclosed professional, translating into a 'reasonable and necessary budget' through an undefined method.

The term 'new framework plan' has been introduced, likely to denote plans designed through the new planning process. Participants will transition to having a new framework plan and will be informed by the NDIA through a "notice of transition."

Furthermore, the Agency will have the ability to build plans as long as 5 years. Funds will be released in periods, meaning participants won't get access to all 5 years' worth of funding at once.

For detailed analysis, refer to the Explanatory Memorandum

https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id%3A%22legislation%2Fems%2Fr7181_ems_f83281ef-0f46-4fbb-a59f-2e19439dcacb%22

NEW GUIDE URGES DISABILITY SUPPORT WORKERS TO "STAY OFF YOUR PHONE!"

In a collaboration between Advocacy WA and VALiD in Victoria, a new video has been released providing valuable insights into what individuals with disabilities expect from their support workers while out in the community.

Titled 'Stay Off Your Phone!', this 15-minute video is a friendly reminder for support workers about the importance of fully focusing on the individuals they assist. It emphasises how getting preoccupied with mobile phones can inadvertently prevent those supported from engaging completely with the outside world.

For disability support workers, the video offers a thought-provoking perspective on everyday habits and provides helpful tips for improvement.

Watch this insightful video here: <https://www.advocacywa.org.au/useful-resources>

Let's strive together to make every moment count for our clients.

FREE CYBER SECURITY RESOURCES FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

Cyber incidents can pose a significant risk, potentially leading to costly losses of sensitive information. To help you guard against such threats, the Australian Government's Australian Signals Directorate (ASD) has developed a series of free resources to bolster your cyber security defences.

These easy-to-follow resources offer valuable guidance to enhance your cyber security, providing you with the tools to stay safe in the digital world.

To access these resources and learn more about protecting your online information, view here: <https://www.cyber.gov.au/learn-basics/view-resources/resources-library>

Secure your cyber space with confidence!

THANKING IDS BOARD MEMBER RICHARD LEE

The excellence awards gave us the chance to officially thank outgoing board member Richard Lee for his outstanding nine years of service on the board of IDS. His unwavering dedication, strategic insights, and commitment to our mission have been invaluable to our organisation's growth and success in the disability sector. We are deeply grateful for his leadership and guidance and wish him the best in their future endeavours.

IDS HERO OF THE MONTH.

CELEBRATING IMOGEN

This month, we shine a spotlight on our dedicated Disability Support Worker (DSW), Imogen. Imogen's passion for helping individuals with disabilities and her commitment to ensuring they feel heard, comfortable, and in control of their life decisions is truly inspiring.

Imogen's typical day at IDS varies, working with three different clients. Her tasks could range from community connection activities such as shopping or dining out, to personal care, attending appointments, or assisting with domestic duties. Every day brings unique experiences, keeping her work interesting.

One of Imogen's best days at IDS was when she assisted a client with a dinner outing. Upon returning, the client expressed their joy and gratitude, a testament to how impactful and important DSW roles are.

A Geelong native, Imogen moved to the city in 2022. When she's not busy bringing positivity into the lives of her clients, she enjoys having coffee with friends, shopping, trying new restaurants, and listening to music.

For individuals considering becoming a DSW, Imogen's advice is straightforward: embrace it if you're passionate about helping people. Despite its challenges, being a DSW is rewarding. Having open communication, a friendly attitude, and fostering self-advocacy in clients are key to making them feel comfortable and secure.

What sets IDS apart for Imogen is its focus on giving clients the freedom to live the life they desire. IDS's efforts to develop tailored support plans and ensure clients have access to activities they enjoy align perfectly with Imogen's values as a worker.

Join us in celebrating Imogen - our Hero of the Month - for her invaluable contribution to our community!

CELEBRATING MAY BIRTHDAYS AT IDS

Happy Birthday Ciler Cchilash! We hope your birthday brings you a great amount of joy and unforgettable moments. As we cheer on your journey, we're excited to continue being a part of your story in the coming year. Here's to our May stars!

IDS CELEBRATES MOTHER'S DAY - A HEARTFELT TRIBUTE TO ALL MOTHERS

This Mother's Day, IDS extends warm wishes to all mothers within our vibrant community. Your resilience, care, and unwavering love truly embody the spirit of nurturing and support we strive to uphold. Thank you for your invaluable contribution to our lives and the world. Happy Mother's Day!



Independent Disability Services

Changing lives, empowering people



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Love us? Leave us a 5-star Google review!

Search for Independent Disability Services (IDS) on Google or [click here](#). For any additional comments and feedback, call us at (03) 9340 5100.



Rebecca
3 reviews

★★★★★ 4 months ago

Hello I'm one of IDS clients who continue to receive through their valued respected client centred supportive support from the amazing office staff who always are dedicated answering the telephones with cheerfulness and understanding with ... [More](#)



John Lee
1 review

★★★★★ 10 months ago

it not aother services ... but wonderful life i acheived from there support thanks heaps idsa



Zeba Hekmat
10 reviews · 1 photo

★★★★★ 2 years ago

My sister uses IDS for home supports and she could not be happier. They are thoughtful, responsive and always put her needs first. Lovely to deal with too. Five stars!!!

